

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

STATUS OF THE APPLICATION

Claims 1-41 were pending in this application and examined.

Claims 1, 14, 20, 23, 26, 33, and 36 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regards as the invention.

Claims 2-13, 15-19, 21-22, 24-25, 27-32, 34-35, and 37-41 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 7-9, 14, 20, 22, 23, 25-28, 30-33, 35, 36, 40, and 41 and canceled claims 2, 19, 21, 24, and 34 without prejudice. New claim 42 has been added. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been introduced by the amendments. Claims 1, 3-18, 20, 22-23, 25-33, and 35-42 remain pending in this application after filing of this amendment.

THE CLAIMS

Rejections under 35 USC 112

Claims 1, 14, 20, 23, 26, 33, and 36 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regards as the invention. The Examiner has suggested claims amendments for overcoming the rejection.

Applicant submits that independent claims 2-13, 15-19, 21-22, 24-25, 27-32, 34-35, and 37-41 as originally filed are patentable under 35 USC 112.

However, solely for sake of expedited prosecution, Applicant has amended the independent claims as suggested by the Examiner to overcome the rejection. Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 14, 20, 23, 26, 33, and 36 are accordingly in a condition for allowance. Applicant further submits that the dependent claims are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing the independent claims from which they depend.

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PATENT

Claims 2, 19, 21, 24, and 34 have been canceled without prejudice.

New Claim

Applicant submits that new claim 42 is in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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